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viewer believes that "the third cup of coffee" illustration (page 396) is to be credited more correctly to Lyman Abbott than to Mr. Roosevelt.

Despite these minor defects, however, the reviewer's interest and enjoyment have been greatly stimulated in reading the book. Although over half the chapters have a political flavor, the volume treats other great fields of thought and action such as education, inventions, labor ideals, and the growth of the far west. The chapters on America's part in the great war should kindle an honest glow of pride in the average reader as well as in hardened historical students. It would be no easy task to unfold, in an equal amount of space, a story of the last fifty years of our national life which should be more judicial, interesting, and compact than Professor Paxson's text.

Mexico and its reconstruction. By Chester Lloyd Jones. (New York: D. Appleton and company, 1921. x, 330 p. \$3.50)

The student of public affairs who has followed the passionate and prejudiced discussions of Mexican disorders during the last decade will welcome this work which comes from the saner and more conservative pen of a political scientist. The twenty-one chapters of the book deal with ten well-defined topics: population and racial elements; government, national and local; finance; the laborer; transportation; industries and internal commerce; foreign commerce; colonization and the land problem; foreign investments and the status of foreign residents; and, lastly, relations between the United States and Mexico.

The author's treatment of most of these topics is of necessity brief and somewhat cursory. An exhaustive study of any one of them would require a volume as large as that now under consideration. It is, however, the author's purpose "to help to indicate the various factors which must be taken into consideration . . . in arriving at a judgment of what may fairly be expected of a government working under such conditions as will confront Mexico during its trying period of reconstruction" (page ix). This he has succeeded in doing in admirable fashion. His poise, his fairness, his sound judgment, his grasp of the fundamentals of Mexican society, his familiarity with the sources are frequently in evidence.

When he comes to deal with the diplomatic relations of the United States and Mexico, the investments of American citizens and their alleged injuries, the disorders along the border, he seems, however, to assume an attitude decidedly Anglo-American. Emphasis upon the period subsequent to 1870 and almost exclusive reliance upon the published documents of the United States government result in a narrative too favorable to the republic north of the Rio Grande; enthusiasm

for the sacredness of contracts apparently precludes all suspicion that big business may have resorted to questionable methods to gain concessions in Mexico just as it has done elsewhere, and prevents recognition of the possible parallel between this phase of the Mexican problem and the difficulties which have confronted the United States in the last thirty years. In fact the author seems not to question the right of the United States to determine at what point the proposed Mexican taxes upon oil become confiscatory (pages 263-265).

Yet Mr. Jones makes it plain that he does not favor the annexation of Mexico. He is positive in his assertion that the United States does not "want" Mexico. He asserts that what the government and the people of the United States do want is order in Mexico, and he hints that in order to bring this about vigorous action on the part of the United States may be necessary. Would this mean intervention? The reader is left in doubt as to this point. If intervention should be resorted to it ought to be solely as a means to the end of helping Mexico to help herself. The author is convinced that an independent Mexico will prove far more satisfactory than permanent occupation for all parties concerned, and particularly for the United States. "A friendly, strong, and independent Mexico will bring greater economic advantages than the annexation that certain classes of Mexicans fear and some citizens of the United States desire," while there can be little doubt that a "friendly neighbor is a better bulwark than a disaffected province."

It may be noted, in conclusion, that the technical equipment of the book is good. The select bibliography will prove very helpful to students in this field; the footnotes, although not profuse, are fairly satisfactory; and there is included in the work a suggestive map of the industries and resources of Mexico.

J. Fred Rippy

Early records of Gilpin county, Colorado, 1859-1861. By Thomas Maitland Marshall. [The University of Colorado, historical collections, volume 2, mining series, volume 1] (Boulder, 1920. xvi, 313 p.)

The documents here printed include papers illustrating the early days (1859-1861) in seventeen mining districts lying within the present boundaries of Gilpin county. A rare map of the county, dated 1866, which has been copied for the frontispiece, indicates the relative positions of the several districts.

"The documents of each district are arranged in chronological order, and the districts follow the order of their organization." On this principle are placed first the papers relating to Gregory district, which was first in time and was also a kind of exemplar of methods of local government among mining camps. There is a table of the documents in the